

Top of the Hill

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MBA Junior School

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Caribbean Mixer: Two Perspectives

From the Eyes of an Eighth Grader

By Ben Pote

Following in the long, grand tradition of mixers held so far this year, the "Caribbean Mixer" on Friday, March 3rd had its ups and downs.

At first, attendees of mixed genders stood in their heterophobic herds; males yelling obnoxiously and comparing whose shirt was the brightest and exchanging articles of clothing, waiting for the dance to start, and females standing around, biting their nails in anxiety, waiting for some lucky guy to come ask one of them to dance. All of the male attendants also discovered that there is no way on this earth to organize themselves into straight lines, a fact which became evident when the DJ tried to orchestrate some semblance of a game. The DJ made a futile attempt to impersonate Bob Marley, and his associate was identified as Winnie the Pooh.

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From the Eyes of a Seventh Grader

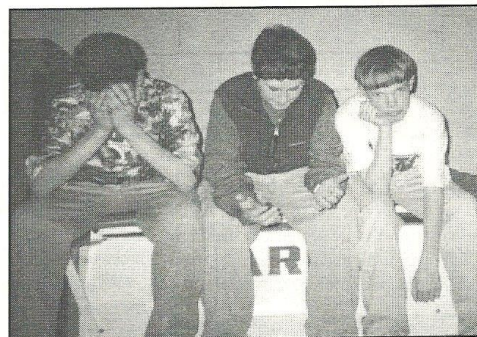
By Matt Bubis, Grant
Thomas, Brents Herron, and
Ben Turk

On the night of Friday, March 3rd, a mixer was held in conjunction with Harpeth Hall and MBA at the MBA small gym. It was great: the palm trees, the limbo, and the DJ, who tried to look cool by wearing fake dreadlocks, to disguise his gray hair. To prove his lack of cool, he was asked to play "Foxy Lady" by Jimi Hendrix, and his response was, "Jimi who?" All we wanted to do was dance

within close proximity to someone of the feminine gender. What's so wrong with that?

Everyone seemed to be enjoying the dance except the kids in the corner. The night started with few people in the corner, but as the room was filled with music, the corner was inundated with kids wondering, "Why can't I dance? Where are my women? Am I visually unappealing?"

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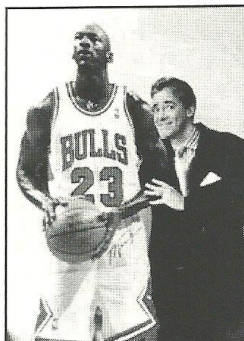


Corneritis

A Fine-Looking Man

By Ted Tywang

Turn on National Public Radio any given Saturday morning and you will hear the strong yet soothing voice of Scott Simon. You may also have heard that voice at the Father-Son Dinner at MBA on February 28. Simon hosts a weekly radio show on NPR in which he reports on the world today and interviews people who are involved in important issues. He has years of broadcast journalism experience under his belt,



*Scott Simon and Michael
Jordan*

and is one of the most recognized in his field. Simon didn't start out as a broadcast journalist, however. He started as a Chicago crime reporter and soon became well-known throughout the Chicago area for his journalistic talent. Eventually Simon contacted National Public Radio because he listened to the station and he really enjoyed their programming. He got a very good job as a news correspondent for

NPR and later became the host of Weekend Edition.

Simon covered many different stories as a news correspondent for NPR. He covered three wars and said that these stories about the Persian Gulf War, the Bosnian conflict, and the war in Kosovo, were his most emotionally satisfying stories. He said that he wanted to be a journalist of some sort because he grew up in the 1960s, a time of great controversy, particularly in this country. Journalism seemed to be the most expedient way to see

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FEATURES

The Caribbean Mixer: In the Eyes of an Eighth Grader Cont.

After an hour of scattered dancing, eating, moshing, and song requesting, Charlie Pate broke out his

having a good time as well.

Another peak of the evening was watching Patrick Bradley, who was definitely scoring some points with some of those eighth grade chicks. The occasional

"Crowd Surfers"

were lifted above everyone else and therefore threatened by Mr. Pooh Bear. If the "Crowd Surfers" were not to cease and desist, he would "put them out on the side," which would have been a tragedy. Yet another peak of the evening occurred when the high-tech CD player started to

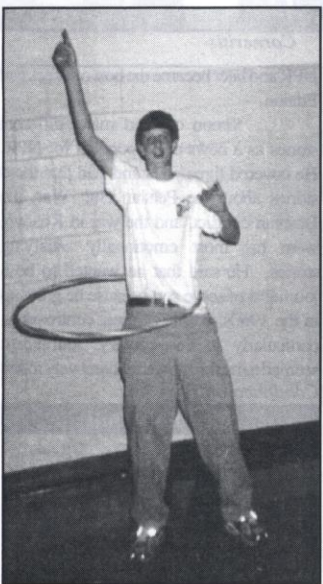


Nice Grass, Alex!

world-renowned "Thriller" moves, which set off a chain reaction of dancing. As he busted a move, more people took their turn cutting a rug in the middle of the circle, most making complete fools of themselves, but

skip. Congratulations to those troopers who still continued to dance even though the music was being murdered by the broken player.

As the mixer came to a close, there was a short time to reflect on the night and think of all of the things that could have gone right, but didn't. All in all, the Caribbean Mixer was a moderately awesome contribution to a Friday night on which none of us would have been doing anything anyway.



"Hoop, There he is!"



Master P Breakdances

On a side note, the Junior School would like to thank all of the mothers and teachers who helped out with this dance. Their support was a necessity on which the dance depended.



My daughter? At a party with these guys?

Kids in the Corner: From the Eyes of a Seventh Grader Cont. "Where are the M&M's?" And lastly, "When shall I get my groove on?" After listening to these questions, we heard many lame responses such as, "I can't dance to this music! I'm a break dancer! The girls can't see me! I knew I should have worn deodorant! It's the shirt! Dangit I ate all my M&M's. Girls make me feel uncomfortable!"

After extensive research, we found the actual problem here to be Comeritis. Comeritis is a social deficiency. It effects dancing, self-esteem, and feelings toward the opposite sex. Like all diseases, there are many different levels of Comeritis,



Clark after Dark

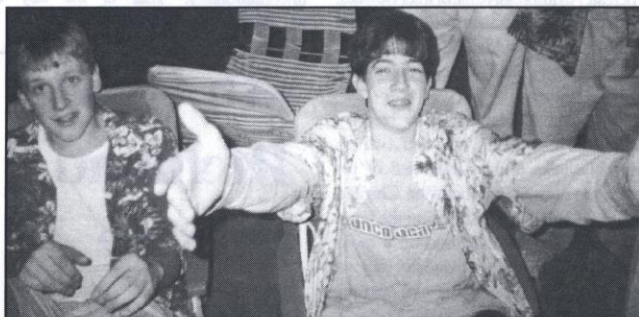
from mild to severe. The worst degree of Comeritis is Kyle-Mayo-itis. This terrible disease causes boys to avoid girls at all costs. This malady is so bad that the person does not even show up for the mixer. The second most severe disease is I-am-playing-basketball-because-I-can't-dance-and-I'm-afraid-of-girls-itis. This disease is more or less self-explanatory. Third is a rather strong disease that causes one to ferociously hunt for M&M's. This craving is commonly known as Where-are-M&M's-itis. The fourth most severe disease is I'm-playing-the-hula-hoop-game-because-I'm-a-loser-itis. This ailment is also self-explanatory. Next is the Who-is-that-hot....oh-that's-_____'s-mom-itis. Prior to the mixer, Ben Turk dreaded the onset of this affliction. On Ben's behalf, we renamed this disease LBT Disease which are the letters on the hind side of his backpack.

Lastly there is I-like-girls-but-girls-don't-like-me-itis. Although the victim of this disease has feelings for girls, the feelings are not mutual. This rejection causes the victim to seek asylum in the corner.

There were others, however, who did not suffer from comer-itis. Many

us up). We noted other eighth graders, but were not cool enough to make this article.

Richard Greathouse was one of the few seventh graders who stood out enough to make this article. We admired him for his awesome feat of dancing with a really hot eighth grader. Also, Ben Turk,



Come to Bahama Mama

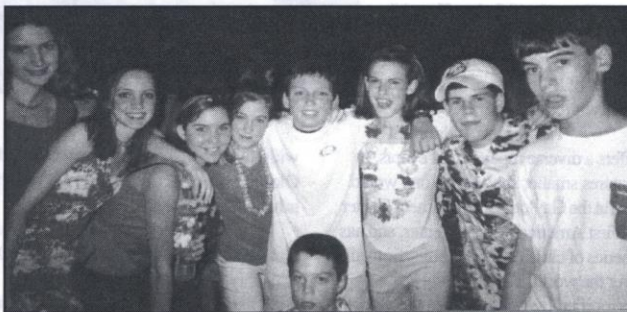
seventh graders really enjoyed their party experience with the eighth

Grant Thomas, Matt Bubis, and Brents Herron were exemplary (We wrote this article so what do you expect).

"Girls make me feel uncomfortable"

graders and admired the few who really stood out. We noticed Charlie Pate for his great interpretation of Michael Jackson's "Thriller," and James Dade for the way he put the moves on all the eighth grade girls. Also, we thought Chandler Tygard and Sam Macdonald were really cool (We had to mention their names or they would beat

We have multiple suggestions for the next mixer: 1. Get a good DJ. (We swear we heard "Wild Wild West" at least three times.) 2. Buy more cokes. (Forget the sissy bottled water.) 3. Spread the speakers out so people will spread out and not be so crowded together. 4. And to all you partygoers: We have been searching for a cure for the awful disease, comeritis. After long hard hours in the lab, we concluded that the only cure for comer-itis is a social life. So get up, get out, and have fun. At the next mixer, we don't want to see you in the corner.



The Benefits of Deodorant

Scott Simon Cont.

and know the world. For Scott Simon, it also turned out to be a fun and fulfilling career. Simon has interviewed such sports legends as Michael Jordan, Muhammed Ali, Walter Payton, Cal Ripken Jr. and Sammy Sosa, as well as icons like Mother Theresa. An impressive list of interviewees. Despite this elite list, there are a few people who Mr. Simon would still like to interview, including Tony Blair, Woody Allen, and Saddam Hussein.

Mr. Simon has also recently written his first book, *Home and Away* in which he talks of his father and of his experiences reporting about the Chicago Bulls. Although he said writing the book was more difficult than hosting a radio show, Mr. Simon obviously enjoys writing. When I asked what was next for him he simply replied, "More books."

At the Father-Son Dinner, Mr. Simon spoke primarily about his relationship with his father. He also gave some funny anecdotes about his father, illustrating both his and his father's sense of humor. Mr. Simon was a great speaker, and made a lasting impression on many a gentleman, scholar, and athlete. He also kept the speech interesting by telling a few funny

stories about Dennis Rodman, one in which Rodman called Karl Malone a "fine looking man."

The final question I asked Mr. Simon was what advice he had for students at MBA. He replied, "Find something or someone you love, and love it unconditionally. That is the key to happiness in life."

8th Grade Richland Service Project

by Tom Santi

The 8th grade class decided as a whole to undertake a service project. Unfortunately, the turnout was not as great as expected. We did have, however, around fifteen people show up. The participants were, basically, from Mr. Spiegel's advisory,

of which I am a member, and a few scragglers (who were just as much appreciated) from several other homerooms. We loaded up in a few of the parents' cars and trucked on over to Richland, a home for the elderly near MBA. There we sat down and talked to the residents about whatever they wanted to talk about. We met some interesting people with great stories. All in all, it was an incredible learning experience that we all enjoyed. There is some hopeful speculation that we will be making return visits some time in the near future.

Listen to your class representatives for information about upcoming service opportunities.



Twang vs. Titans: The Twang

by Charlie Pate

Today, Nashville is enjoying a renaissance of sorts. With the advent of professional athletics, Nashville has never received as much respect.

I feel, however, that Nashville was already a great town. From the "Mother Church" of country music, the Ryman Auditorium, to the many recording studios of Music Row, Nashville is filled with country music.

The Ryman Auditorium offers a diverse repertoire of events. It features smaller shows than one would find at the Gaylord Entertainment Center or First American Music Center, and has a series of classical symphonies from all over the world. This diversity is personified by a concert that the author saw during which James Brown danced



Garth Brooks Gettin' It On

with Barbara Mandrell. When the Grand Ole Opry House is under repair, the Opry is held at the Ryman.

Whether you like it or not, your hometown is most famous for the Grand Ole Opry, not the Titans. Even if you don't like country music, it is a part of the Nashville experience. Patrick Moberg said,

"I went once, I didn't think I'd like it, but I really enjoyed it." Musicians that shaped the musical landscape years ago, like Kitty Wells and Bill Anderson, share the stage with new stars like Ricky Skaggs and Garth Brooks. It is very exciting to see the musicians conversing off stage. Along with the stars, the Melvin Sloan Dancers are great examples of traditional buck dancing. As a Nashvillian, the Grand Ole Opry is definitely something you should embrace.

The Station Inn is one of Nashville's best kept secrets. In this bland, stucco building on 12th street, old time musicians play every night. Rolland White of the Kentucky Colonels is a regular at the Station Inn. On Sunday nights, there is a bluegrass jam session, at which the author has seen the likes of

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The Twang Cont.

Butch Baldassari, a great mandolinist. There, the author has also enjoyed the music of John Hartford, Del McCoury and Tom T. Hall. Although you are required to be 18 or accompanied by an adult to enter, most of the musicians refuse to play unless it is smoke-free.

Nashvillians also have access to great country radio. WSM (650 AM) not only offers a great selection of country music, it helped invent it. In 1925, WSM broadcasted the first show of the "WSM Barn Dance" which evolved into the Grand Ole Opry. WSM blends traditional country music with new songs quite well. I once heard the original 1928 Carter Family recording of "The Wildwood Flower" followed by a Brooks and Dunn song. Nashville radio also has a variety of other

country music shows. Again on WSM, Hairl Hensley hosts the "Early Worm Gets the Bluegrass Show" at 5:45 every morning and the "Orange Possum

*Ryman Auditorium*

Special" from 6 to 8 on Thursday evenings. WRVU (91.1 FM) also has some great shows. On Saturday nights from 10 to midnight it broadcasts the "Hillbilly Jamboree" which features "100% Garth-free music." On WRVU,

Tracy Todd hosts "George the Bluegrass Show" on Sunday afternoons from 2 to 4, and directly after that, "That's All Folk" plays two hours of folk music. The "Bluegrass Breakdown" is on WPLN (90.3 FM) from 8 to 10 Saturday night. Nashville radio is the best in the world for high quality country music.

I would like to emphasize that the objective of this article is not to sully the Nashville sports teams and their presence in Nashville. Every result of the teams has been beneficial except for the 300 million dollar debt for a building used only a few times each year. I simply encourage you to explore the staple and driving force of your hometown, country music. The whole world associates Nashville with country music, and it is your duty as a Nashvillian to embrace it as well as the new sports teams.

Titans vs. Twang: The Titans

by Taylor Tate

In the past Nashville has been known for country music and only country music. This association is not bad, but as our sole "claim to fame," it lacks flare. You just don't have a big-name town from one main product.

With mayor Phil Bredesen came a new arena and the

Kats, our arena football team, which was our first glimpse at big time sporting events.

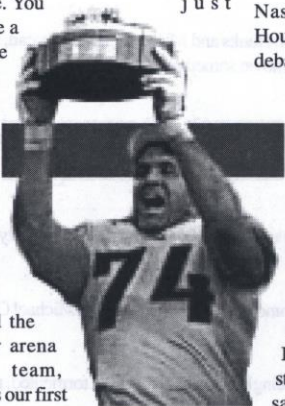
Although the team had limited success, it was a start.

Then, Nashville experienced a real step up. The NHL had begun to expand teams to more cities, and soon Nashville was blessed with a new

hockey team, the Predators, for us to support. They also were only mediocre, but with national publicity they gave us some strong footing for our biggest endeavour yet.

For years, there was talk of Nashville acquiring the displaced Houston Oilers. Then there was huge debate about the cost, the name, etc.

These questions were slowly answered, and former mayor Phil Bredesen signed a deal to have the Oilers move to Nashville. They were unoriginally dubbed the Tennessee Oilers, but no one expected much of the team anyway. After three 8-8 seasons and hop-scotching from the Liberty Bowl in Memphis to MTSU's stadium to Vanderbilt's Dudley Field, there was a new stadium to call home. Rising from the sand mounds and rusty warehouses of the Cumberland River's east bank, a marvel was born, Adelphia Coliseum. It was built with over 68,000 seats, new sky-boxes, and all the other necessities of an NFL stadium. Though it cost an exorbitant amount of money, it was all worth it. The team got new logos, jerseys, and a real name, the

*Bruce Matthews**Vokoun blocks a goal*

"Tennessee Titans." It was magic. The team fell right into place and Titans fever flowed in the veins of the fans, voted the #1 fans in the NFL. The team was carried on the support of Nashville to the Super Bowl on the first year of the franchise's new home.

The economy has gotten a huge boost, national publicity beyond our dreams, and a new sense of pride which country music has failed to bring. These decisions to modernize Nashville were definitely timely and successful ventures.

ENTERTAINMENT

Beauty-ful Oscars

By Ted Tywang

This year's Oscars were the most unpredictable in years because there was no clear leader. With Billy Crystal as host, the seventy-second annual Academy

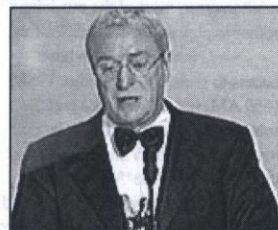


Hilary Swank, *Boys Don't Cry*

Awards proved to be quite funny. Billy's opening number, during which he randomly appeared in a collection of classic movies from

The *Godfather* to *Casablanca* to *The Exorcist*, was hilarious. Crystal then sang his usual medley of famous songs with the lyrics changed around so that each song told about one of the movies nominated for best picture. Crystal's jokes, including "I see white people" and, "This thong is killing me," along with Robin Williams' hilarious performance of "Blame Canada" from *South Park: Bigger, Longer and Uncut* were a few of the show's highlights.

One of the weaknesses of this year's show was the song segment. In years past, the performances of the songs were sprinkled strategically



Michael Caine, *Cider House Rules*

throughout the show. Most people, including me, used the performance of a song as a time to refill the refreshment bowl or to go to the bathroom. This year, however, all the songs were lumped together at once, so there was one ten-minute interval of non-stop singing, and that was your bathroom break for the night. Also, *N'Sync at the Oscars? Gimme a break!!*

Summer phenomenon *The Matrix* won all four of the Oscars it was nominated for. Below is a list of the winners in each of the six major Oscar categories and what the self-proclaimed TOH movie expert thought should have won.

Best Picture

Winner: *American Beauty*

TOH Pick: *The Green Mile* because, along with riveting performances by both Tom Hanks and Michael Clarke Duncan, it also had several controversial themes (racism, Jesus, and the death penalty) which gave the movie something for everyone.

Best Actor

Winner: Kevin Spacey, *American Beauty*

TOH Pick: Denzel Washington, *The Hurricane* because this is Denzel at his best. The inspiring film centered around Washington playing the wrongfully convicted Hurricane Carter.

Best Actress

Winner: Hilary Swank, *Boys Don't Cry*

TOH Pick: Hilary Swank, *Boys Don't Cry* because she was so dedicated to this role and she played it with such honesty. In this movie, she smoothly played a girl who passed as a boy.

Best Supporting Actor

(This category was the toughest to call with the likes of surprising Michael Clarke Duncan, Tom Cruise, veteran Michael Caine, Jude Law, and newcomer Haley Joel Osment all in one category.)

Winner: Michael Caine, *The Cider House Rules*

TOH Pick: Michael Clarke Duncan, *The Green Mile* because he played so convincingly the role of a gentle, tormented, magical giant. He also poured his soul into this character.

Best Supporting Actress

Winner: Angelina Jolie, *Girl Interrupted*

TOH Pick: Angelina Jolie, *Girl Interrupted* because she did a good job of playing an arrogant bad-girl mental patient and also because hers was the only performance the "expert" actually saw.

Best Director

Winner: Sam Mendes, *American Beauty*

TOH Pick: Spike Jonze, *Being John Malkovich* because it's gotta be hard directing a good movie that takes place in someone's head!!

EDITORIALS

Go, "W!!!"

By Jesse Richards

The struggle has finally ended. The two major opponents, George W. Bush and Al Gore, have finally won the right to fight each other in the race for the presidency.

George W. Bush has several things going for him on his way to becoming the president. He has good solid policies of reforming Medicare, welfare, social security, taxes, and education. He has been an advocate for limiting the amount of soft money a candidate can receive and has encouraged an increase on the limit of hard money that supporters can give candidates from \$1000 to \$3000 (Hard money is funds given to candidates directly from individuals and soft money is funds given to candidates by organizations). He also plans to cut down on the amount outsiders can contribute to

the campaign. For example, during the Texas primary some rich Texans sponsored anti-McCain ads.

Speaking of McCain, George Bush might just be able to convince his former opponent, whom he trounced earlier in the campaign, to join him in his journey to the White House. If he succeeds in pulling

campaign will be more appealing to a wider group of people. McCain's specialty was convincing conservative democrats to vote for him, instead of their own democratic candidate.

Bush also has a record that will stand him to good stead. He was the first governor in over twenty-five years to be re-elected in the state of Texas. He clinched his re-election with a 69% of the vote. Also, a high percentage of the people at his victory celebration were conservative democrats, African Americans, and Latinos. This diversity shows that many different types of people have confidence in his decisions and that he was important in Texas' recent improvement of education and balancing the budget. George W. Bush also had the advantage of being able to observe his father in office and learn from his experiences.

All these things together clearly show who is the better presidential candidate. His name is George W. Bush.



The Body and the Brains

McCain into his camp as the Vice President or a member of the cabinet, the Bush

Bushwacking

By Jonathan Cannon

George W. (Dubya) Bush is a prime example of how intelligence and character don't really matter as long as your father has enough money and political influence to offset your shortcomings. Dubya holds a first class ticket to his father's gravy train, which has given him a top-notch education at Yale. Dubya was not accepted to an Ivy League school because of his SAT's (as Bill Clinton and Bill Bradley were) but because his father owns a prosperous oil business in Texas.

Bush's lack of intelligence has certainly shown in recent interviews with reporters. In one interview with the

Boston Globe, he missed 14 out of 20 questions in a quiz. Gore took the same quiz and missed 3; McCain missed 5. Even a member of his staff said that his experience in foreign affairs mostly came from "being around when his father was in his many different jobs... Is he comfortable with foreign policy? I would say not." [Boston Globe, 6/6/99]. Dubya also employed Dan Quayle-like rhetoric in his speeches, saying about terrorism, he will "use our technology to enhance uncertainties abroad" [New York Times 3/6/00]. On this specific occasion, reported the New York Times, he didn't even catch his mistake!

He also has shown his philosophical side:

"It is the victor of a messenger who is a reformer with results." -South Carolina Speech, Columbia, SC, 2/19/00

Dubya's stance on key issues, such as gun control, sound "a step above Dan Quayle" [George magazine April 2000]: Reporter: "Al Gore wants more stringent gun control laws. What's your answer to him, governor? Bush: "Guns don't

kill people; guns are designed and

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Curious George

'Dubya' Rebuttal Cont.

manufactured for the purpose of enabling people to use the guns to kill people." [New York 3/6/00]

This doesn't sound to me like the next leader of the free world. His stance on 'Campaign Finance Reform' is unfounded, because Dubya has no limit to the amount of money he can spend, which is against the entire idea of Campaign Finance Reform. Dubya isn't accepting federal funds because he is already economically sound.

Dubya has also resorted to the age-old Republican political tactic: mudslinging. His main selling point on his campaign is that he will "restore dignity to the White House." Reports one woman to BushWatch.com "now we have to act like we care that Dubya, along with 249,999,999 other Americans, has never done anything inappropriate with a White House intern... Is somebody going to ask me to believe that this is a qualification for the presidency?" Indeed, lots of questions are to be raised about his eligibility for the Oval Office: Is he smart enough? Does he have enough experience? Will he misbehave in the White House? All these questions and more will be answered by the American People, or at least those who vote, this November. Agree? Go to BushWatch.com or democrats.org

McCain in the Membrane

By Arthur Kim

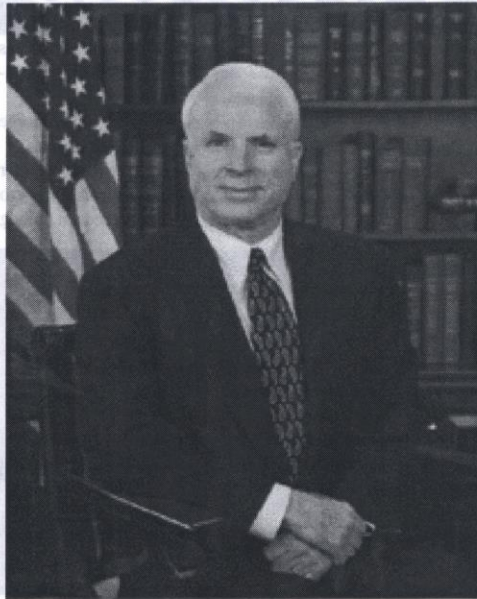
The presidential race this year has been a very grueling and dirty game only meant for the fittest to survive. Except for Bush, that is. Bush just plain disgusts me. As one seventh grader put it, "My daddy was president, so I think I should be president now." This is the feeling I get from the politician full of more bull than all the others combined. But then again, as Mr.

Russ said, "They're all politicians, so they're all full of it." True, but even so, I think we could find a billion reasons why

give the money to the already prosperous upper class. McCain showed himself to be a larger reformer than Bush, willing to make

changes that would benefit not just the United States' economy, but the world's as well.

McCain worked as an outside maverick, trying to get on the inside of George Bush on the racetrack, even though Bush had already set the race. Bush used his father's connections to get the support that McCain struggled for. And despite Bush's advantage, McCain took New Hampshire. Immediately after the New Hampshire "accident," Bush began to crank out negative ads to tear down McCain, who had already come



Membrane McCain

the Republicans should have chosen McCain over Bush.

Before this year, I had never really followed the presidential elections because Al, my younger brother, had been simply too young to understand what had been going on. But as soon as McCain clinched the New Hampshire delegates, I was hooked. McCain showed himself as a force to be reckoned with, and I think that people should have paid more attention to him, instead of simply rejecting him and expecting Bush to pull it out at the end.

As soon as the debates started, Bush honestly did not know what his position was on many issues, as opposed to McCain, who had a firm stand on the same issues. Bush simply gathered his money and won with promises of huge, irresponsible tax cuts. McCain did it the hard way and showed the devastating effects of these tax cuts. With the same tax surplus, McCain planned to shore up Social Security and Medicare, rather than

such a long way. In fact, Bush borrowed McCain's views on some issues and used them as his own. I don't know about you, but I think that's just plain wrong. The fact that Bush cannot win on his own should

My daddy was president, so I should be president now!

scare people into realizing what is going on.

McCain made a very large issue of reforming campaign policies. There is a reason for that. McCain was the one who was on the other side of the fence, the one out on the street, and he wanted to knock down that fence. He felt the need to knock it down so that no one could bar him out again. If Bush, visited Bob Jones University and seems to dislike Catholics and people of other races, we really have to wonder: Can he defeat Al Gore in the coming presidential election?

Al My Pal

By Josh Rosenblatt, Guest Columnist from the *Bell Breaker*

For all of the voter-eligible Microbes out there, elections are coming up in a few months. It's time to stop paying attention to Pokemon and Brittany Spears and look at this year's presidential race. Basically you have two options: Republican George W. Bush (referred to as Dubya from here on out) and Democrat Al Gore. Lots of people on campus are throwing their support behind Dubya, saying, "Al Gore, Al Bore is more like it, huh huh huh." If you are one of these people, put down this article and migrate to a dictatorship somewhere because you deserve no part of the democratic process. There are real reasons to vote for Al Gore, and several more reasons just to vote against Dubya.

Education. It's that thing you are supposed to be getting here, instead of playing games on your calculator. For those of you who haven't noticed, MBA is a private institution. That means your parents pay a ridiculous amount of money for you to go here. The amount it costs to educate an MBA student is roughly equivalent to the amount of money the average American makes each year. Gore wants to help the schools by providing new facilities, more faculty, and better resources. It will cost money, but we are sitting on a huge surplus (something we didn't have under Dubya's Daddy's administration). Dubya, on the other hand, wants two things: first, a tax cut to give away our surplus. Instead of the soak-the-rich tax of the depression, they should call it the swindle-the-poor-tax of the new millennium. Second, Dubya wants to

implement a voucher program. Instead of giving more money to education, he divides up the money allocated for public education and gives it to each student. The student can then use that money at any school, public or private. That sounds well and good, until you realize it is the worst idea ever. First, it is **blatantly** unconstitutional (When I say

blatantly, I compare it with Hitler's becoming the dictator of Germany, an act only questionable under the German constitution). The government is paying for children to

go to a religiously affiliated school, an extreme violation of the separation of church and state. Second, each voucher is worth approximately \$1000. Poor children will still not have the money to go to private schools, because \$1000 just isn't enough cash. So the middle class children each take their \$1000 from the public schools and put it in private institutions, and the poor children are left with schools that are worse than before.

Environment. Any idiot who knows anything about toxic pollutants knows that they are bad. Air pollution is bad, oil spills are bad, global

warming... you get the idea. Never has America seen a candidate more committed to saving the environment than Al Gore. His initiatives as vice president have put restrictions on pollutants such as CFC's and other ozone depleting toxins. It's not that Dubya doesn't care about the environment, it is just that his money base doesn't. The people who are paying for him to get elected (big business, Texas oil companies, etc.) profit from raping our environment.

Honesty. I don't care if you

There are many reasons to vote for Al Gore, and many more reasons just to vote against Bush.

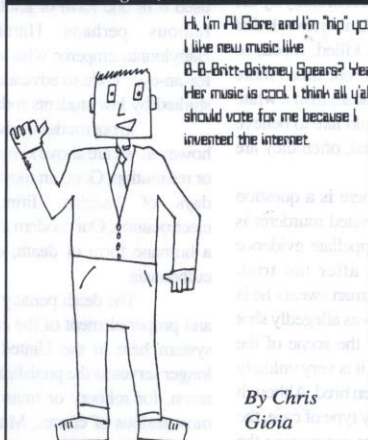
are pro-life or pro-choice. You should care about hypocrisy. In recent public debates, McCain said that if his daughter were raped, he would allow her to get an abortion, even though he is pro-life. Alan Keyes said that Abortion is murder and would want his

daughter to have the baby. Dubya, minutes after saying the same thing, refused to answer the question because he didn't want to bring his family into the discussion. Dubya has different standards for himself than those for the rest of the nation. He is a draft dodger, a crack smoker (he admitted to it), and a hypocrite. Al Gore's honesty should not be tarnished in the eyes of the voter by Clinton's deeds. Gore has done nothing

wrong. He has the right ideas for our future. And when elections come around this November, he is the right man to vote for.



Domo-arigato Mr. Roboto, domo, domo-arigato, Mr. Roboto....



Capital Punishment: To Live or Die?

Anti-Execution

by Charles K. Pate

When we are growing up, we are constantly taught not to retaliate. Our government, however, is performing the simplest form of the "eye for an eye" system: capital punishment.

Thomas Jefferson said in the Declaration of Independence, "All men... are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness." The death penalty violates this simple doctrine. The Declaration of Independence may have no legal bearing, but it outlines the ideals of America perceived by the fathers of our country.

Complicating the issue, courts are often biased. Most of the people on death row are poor and cannot afford skilled lawyers for the appellate process. Most of the people also had white victims. In Virginia between 1978 and 1997, forty-one per cent of capital offenses were committed upon black victims. 145 people received the death penalty in that nineteen-year period, and only nineteen per cent of the victims of those offenders were black. A recent study by the American Civil Liberties Union reveals that a black person who has killed, raped, or robbed a white person is four times more likely to be sentenced to death than a white person. Although we would like to believe that our juries are impartial, often they are not.

Furthermore, there is a question of whether or not a convicted murderer is guilty. Virginia allows appellate evidence only twenty-one days after the trial. Tennessee's Phillip Workman swears he is innocent. The bullet that was allegedly shot from his gun found near the scene of the crime is unscratched, and it is very unlikely that that bullet has ever been fired. Although juries can be wrong in any type of case, the stakes are higher in a case concerning the death penalty.

It is surprising how much less expensive it is to imprison someone for life than it is to execute him. In North Carolina, a death penalty case costs \$2.16 million more

than a non-death penalty case with a life imprisonment. California spends \$90 million more than the rest of the justice system each year. An execution costs an average of \$3.2 million in Florida, and the price for a death penalty case in Texas is three times larger than the cost of imprisoning someone in a maximum security prison for forty years. Not only is the death penalty unjust, but it is exorbitantly expensive.

What is the objective of the justice system? Is it to arbitrarily punish offenders? No, it is to protect society from the offenders of the system and to rehabilitate those offenders, so they are no longer harmful to society or themselves. The death penalty is clearly a vengeful punishment. Why else would one have to be sane to be executed? You have to ask yourself if you want to live in a country that repeatedly commits premeditated murder.

Pro-Execution

By Christopher Schuller

Since the beginning of time, man has employed the death penalty as a cornerstone of proportional justice. Nearly every ancient civilization on record has used it in one form or another, the most famous perhaps Hammurabi, the Babylonian emperor who wrote an "eye-for-an-eye" code so advanced that it is still studied by law students today.

In our modern, advanced society, however, we are above simple punishment or retribution. Gone, in most states, are the days of hanging, firing squad, or electrocution. Our modern death penalty is a humane form of death, comparable to euthanasia.

The death penalty is a necessary and proper element of the criminal justice system here in the United States. It no longer serves as the punishment for rape or arson, for robbery or treason but for the most serious of crimes, Murder. And not even for that, really. Only in especially aggravated murders, first-degree murder, do we punish in such extremis.

And it is not a punishment. No, the death penalty serves to stop the most heinous of offenders permanently. We do

not kill murderers because they have killed - we kill murderers to prevent them from ever murdering again. Opponents of the death penalty will argue that life imprisonment, sans parole, is just as effective for stopping murderers, but I say no. Prisoners kill in prison, prisoners escape, sentencing laws change.

For example, Dawud Mu'min, who was serving a 48-year sentence for the 1973 murder of a cab driver, escaped from prison and stabbed a storekeeper named Gladys Nopwasky in a 1988 robbery that netted four dollars. Thanks to our death penalty, Mu'min will never kill another innocent person. The State of Virginia executed him on November 14, 1997.

The death penalty also has widespread positive side-effects. Extensive studies over the past half-century show the deterrent effects of the death penalty reach far and wide across America. In nations and states without such a penalty, the murder rate is far higher, just one more argument for this capital "punishment." In fact, Harris County, Texas had the highest rate of murder in the nation in 1981, the year before the death penalty was reinstated in Texas. From 1990 to 1995, the county had more executions than any other state in the union, and experienced a 48% drop in its homicide rate. Harris County now has the lowest homicide rate in the nation.

Further arguments of abolitionists question the constitutionality of the death penalty. Citing the Declaration of Independence or the eighth amendment, people throughout the nation exclaim the death penalty "unconstitutional." As the Supreme Court ruled in *Tropp v. Dulles*, when Chief Justice Earl Warren, who was no friend of the death penalty, said that the death penalty "cannot be said to violate the constitutional concept of cruelty."

It is clear from repeated use over the past two centuries that the death penalty in America is an effective tool for stopping repeat murderers and discouraging potential criminals. Both constitutional and efficient, the institution of execution will stand in America for a long time to come.

The Big Red Salad Bowl

By Christopher Schuller

Throughout the month of March, MBA celebrated Cultural Awareness Month. Events around the campus included everything from international food in the cafeteria to public debates in the quad about international issues, to Spanish guitar music performed during lunchtimes.

Many special internationally-oriented assembly programs were also presented during March, including an eighth-grade produced documentary about teachers and staff who are not natives of the United States.

The team of boys, Christopher Schuller, Arthur Kim, and Trevor Yarbrough, each interviewed different staff members about their homeland experiences.

Christopher Schuller interviewed Mrs. Porter to get an idea of her background in Germany. Mrs. Porter told of her wartime memories - she was just eight years old in 1939 - and of the constant terror of living a wartime childhood. Going to schools and writing in the margins of newspapers because white paper was in short supply, blacking out the windows at night, dressing in the dark, and actually being trapped in an air raid out in the open once, were all a part

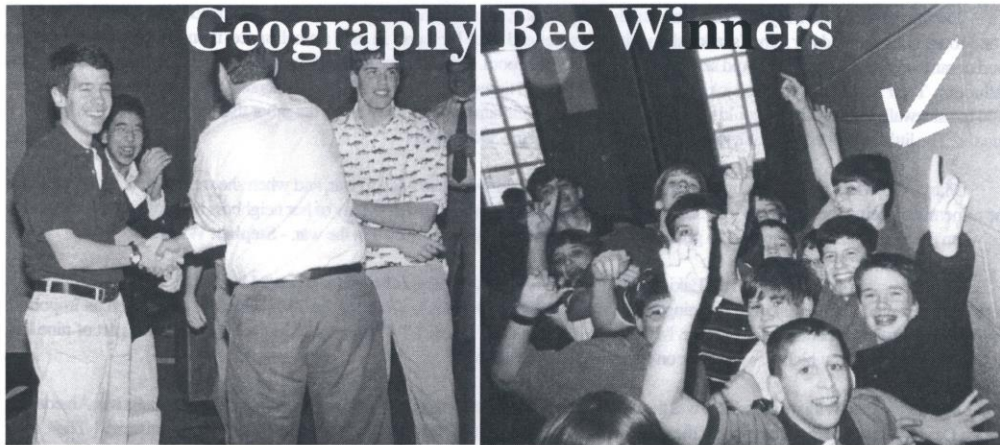
of hers and so many other German children's elementary-school lives. Even today, when a plane crosses the sky above her, Mrs. Porter feels an instant of panic - just an instant - that takes her back to the fear and the insecurity of a major world war.

Arthur Kim talked to Mr. Kelley, a native of Ireland, who was able to describe in detail the conflict between Irish Catholics and Northern Irish Protestants that is such a major issue in Ireland, and told fascinating stories of his childhood. He grew up near a castle, and his stories painted an idyllic and green portrait of a life that anyone might like to live. Magical tales of a quiet Irish town, yarns about the town's pub, and even items about Ireland in general (there are no professional sports over there) highlighted his story.

Trevor Yarbrough took Mrs. Qian, a fascinating native of the People's Republic of China, who had many stories about dramatically different life in Asia. From the walled schools of China to the communist government to near-horror tales of the Cultural Revolution, Mrs. Qian related the hardships when her father was sent to a labor camp and her mother was

forced to sleep at the school where she taught. Mrs. Qian told of the devastating effects of the Revolution, students assaulting teachers, teachers committing suicide, and the scary elements of the Communist government. After their rise to power, the communists closed the colleges so Mrs. Qian went to the teaching school and became a chemistry teacher in Beijing. Finally, when the colleges were reopened, she graduated and came to the United States in 1995 with her husband and son.

Schuller also helped with Mr. Mario, a native of the Sudan and a thoroughly interesting man to talk to. Mr. Mario was born in the south of Sudan which is a black Christian area of the country. Throughout his early life, things were peaceful in the African countryside where he hunted antelope from his village. When tensions erupted between the blacks and the Arabs, however, Mr. Mario had to run around the Sudan from place to place, eventually ending up in Ethiopia, then Eritrea, then, with the help of the UN, in Nashville where he has lived since 1999. Just last week, Mr. Mario and his wife celebrated the birth of their fifth child, Pamela.



Mr. Popovich Congratulates Christopher Schuller

Craig Stewart is Mobbed by his Grateful Classmates.

The Greatest Generation: Our Stories

Tom Brokaw's *The Greatest Generation*, which catalogues heroic stories of Americans living in the 30's and 40's is in its 19th week on the New York Times Best Seller list. Also, recently in seventh grade literature, we have read two novels set in the South during the 30's and early 40's. The novels, *The Road to Memphis* by Mildred Taylor and *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, both are based on real events, family stories, and actual people the authors knew. The amazing stories that these authors tell made us wonder about our own family stories. Some students interviewed family members and discovered rich details and anecdotes from this era. As Spencer Cummings wrote, "The stories of my grandparents, now handed down to me, will remain in the family for a long time to come. Through interviewing these special people, I have learned to appreciate their strength and courage." Below are excerpts from some of the interviews:

My granny was not so lucky with her family in the war. One day they received a telegram that her brother Ernest was missing. They all thought he was dead. A few months later, they received a telegram that he was back and in good health. It turns out that he was captured and in prison for months. While he was in prison he carved a knife out of wood from a barrel. He stabbed the guard and managed to free everyone in prison. - **Chris Woolsey**

When my grandfather Benjamin Cook was thirteen, he lived on the army base at Wright Field in Dayton, Ohio. The Wright brothers' house was across from his school, and Ben met them. Also, he was General Eisenhower's paperboy. - **Chris Gioia**

My grandfather, Chester William Crumbo was a bomber pilot assigned to bomb a German oil refinery called Moosebierbaum in Yugoslavia. The refinery was heavily guarded by the Germans. In one attempt, his plane was hit hard and began losing altitude. The most important engine was burning. Chet ordered the boys to shoot the "friendly flares" out of the plane in hopes of getting help from Allies on the ground. All of a sudden, friendly flares were being shot into the air near the coast. My grandfather landed the beat up plane the best he could on the beach. British soldiers approached the plane, which brought a big sigh of relief for the men. The mission was a success. The refinery had been smashed. Though there were 153 bullet holes in his plane, not a single man was hit. - **Jed Crumbo**

My grandfather Franklin Robinson played in the United States Army Band, a rare situation because of the segregation laws. After receiving an Honorable Discharge, he began his music career as a writer and trumpet player. My grandfather played with many of the famous jazz and big band musicians such as Dizzy Gillespie, Ramsey Lewis, and Cab Calloway. He recorded some hits, but during those days Black musicians did not make much money. - **Phillip Robinson**

Charles Richard Ehinger my grandfather born in Palmyra, Michigan, a rural area, remembers that aside from listening to Lone Ranger, Green Hornet, and news of the war on the radio, once a month a movie was shown in the school yard. In other rural areas farmers would hitch a team of horses to a flat bed wagon and go to watch a movie shown on the side of a grocery store made of brick. - **Jon Waldo**

During the depression, my maternal grandmother Ruth Baker, an immigrant from Russia who spoke no English, lived in Chicago in a one-room house behind her father's tailor shop with her sister and three brothers. In such a small space, if one of the children was too loud or rambunctious, her father would send him or her to the bathroom. Often, by the end of the night, all of the children would be in the bathroom. Their humor and practical jokes saw them through hard times. The boys would heat up pennies in a frying pan and drop them onto the sidewalk so that people would pick them up and burn their hands. Once they told a neighbor that they would cut his hair for a quarter. The little boy agreed, so, as a joke, they cut an X in his hair. - **David Pass**

Mary Ann Wieck, who grew up in St. Louis, had many cousins who had to go to war, and when she went to their mom's houses, she remembers seeing the flag, with four stars, one each for her four sons in the war. Many of her neighbors had flags, and it was sad to see when a neighbor changed the stars to gold stars when a person in their family died in the war. - **Stephen Wieck**

The depression greatly affected the Eakin family, especially my grandfather Jack Eakin. It caused Jack's father to lose his dry goods store and prevented Lucille Eakin from going to college. In 1939, Jack went to work for the TVA where he worked on an important underground city in preparation for the war. My maternal grandfather, Hershel Tolbert enlisted in the Navy and was part of nine key invasions, the biggest of which was an attack on Iwo Jima. - **Jack Eakin**

My grandfather, William Goodrich, was the captain of one of four companies of medics. He participated in campaigns in Algeria, the Sahara Desert, Sicily and then Italy where the company marched to and took over Rome in what he called a "tight squeeze." Then, after a two year stint at home, he went back to France where he participated in the Battle of the Bulge. - **Jonathan Ray**

Max Komisar graduated from Wallace School in 1929 and started saving his money and learning the art of salesmanship. In 1939,

he opened his first furniture store called K Furniture. This store later became a chain of stores throughout Middle Tennessee which lasted for over fifty years. In the war he served as the captain of the Flying Tigers who fought in the Pacific theater. After the war, he served as an attaché to Madame Chiang Kai-shek. - **Alex Komisar**

My grandmother, Glenna Todd, remembers extremely hot summers. The family would tell the milk man to bring ice. He would bring one hundred pound ice blocks. They would use some of the ice to make ice cream for dessert. - **Todd Bond**

Barbara Burrus, my grandmother, remembers that as children they collected scrap iron for the war. They would bring it to school, weigh it, then compete in teams to see who brought the most. She also spoke of selling war bonds to a man in her neighborhood. She had been selling five dollar bonds, and he said he would take one for five hundred dollars! - **Ben Turk**

In the 1940's Dan Mills, my grandfather, swam in a creek in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee located near a prisoner of war camp. The prisoners would cut down trees that the U.S. used for dye. After long days in the woods the German prisoners and even the guards would come to swim in the creek with my grandfather. He remembers that many of the Germans were nice. In Tullahoma, Tennessee, there was an army base. Before the soldiers left to go to war, they were driven through the streets and many women threw their names into the trucks, so the men could write them. - **Brewer Adams**

My maternal grandfather, James Barron, the middle child of thirteen, eleven of which were sisters, grew up on a farm in Covington, Tennessee and served in the U.S. Army from 1941-1947. He was almost killed in a foxhole when a shell landed at his feet. Luckily it was a dead shell. - **Matthew Cate**

In China during the war, my grandfather, Shih Jui Chen, set up a noodle factory to cover up for a spy operation. His spy ring was the only one undiscovered by the Japanese at the end of WWII. For his service, he was given many decorations and promoted to the rank of brigadier general. Warren Syverud, my paternal grandfather, lived in South Dakota during the dust bowl. Heavy winds would pick up the topsoil and hurl it into the air, completely blocking out the sun. Without topsoil, farming was too hard. His farm was foreclosed by the bank, and he was forced to find a new job. - **Brian Syverud**

My German great grandad was lucky back then. Two days before WWII started, he became an American citizen. My German uncles were unlucky. The war started so quickly, they did not have time to flee, so they were forced to fight for Germany. One of my uncles was caught by Russians and was treated horribly, but all three of my uncles lived through the war. - **PJ Fox**

Alfred Adams, my grandfather, remembers people coming to the back door asking for food during the Depression. His mother was generous enough to give them a meal of chicken, turnip greens, cornbread and buttermilk. He also remembers that MBA tuition at that time was \$350. Before the war, his mother made them listen to Winston Churchill's speech to parliament on the radio. When Japan bombed Pearl Harbor, his mother suggested that Mr. Ball, MBA's Headmaster at the time, assemble all 95 MBA students to listen to President Roosevelt's Day of Infamy speech to Congress. - **Hughes Tipton**

My grandmother Patricia Hulce lived in London during the war. Both her aunt and uncle were killed in one of the bombings, and her grandmother lost a leg. A school down the street from her house was bombed while in session. The bomb was a direct hit to school, and the explosion heated up the water in the pipes. The pipes were in the shelters, so although all of the children made it to the bomb shelters safely, the tragedy came when the pipes broke. - **Graham Haley**

My grandfather, Raleigh Johnson, remembers during the Depression that everyone had victory gardens at home and during recess, each child would work on his garden because the gardens made better food than they could buy. Often the soldiers got the quality food and in local grocery stores, sometimes the only offerings in the meat departments would be kidneys, liver, brains, tongues, and pickled pig's feet. - **Eastman Landry**

In the 30's my grandmother was getting ready to graduate from school in Lima, Ohio. They considered canceling graduation because most girls couldn't afford a white dress which cost \$2.98. In Lima there was a lot of gangster activity. The 30's was the time when the infamous bank robber John Dillenger shot and killed the sheriff of Lima. - **Patrick Bradley**

In the thirties, my grandfather Glenn Snoddy was ten years old. He remembers a riot caused by the prospect of a trial much like the one in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Glenn remembers that the police were holding the alleged suspect at the Shelbyville courthouse. Suddenly, without any prior notice, many angry men had gathered outside the building into a mob. Things got out of hand, and looking out his window, Glenn could see them burn the courthouse to the ground. The mob didn't realize that the police had secretly dressed the man up as a woman and shipped him back to Nashville for safety. - **Kyle Mayo**

SPORTS UPDATES

8th Lax: MAN!!

By Charlie Pate

The microbe lacrosse season is underway. After weeks of playing pick-up lacrosse in intramurals, the team is ready. One must make the distinction that this year, they are playing "lacrowasssss" as opposed to playing "lacrossay" last year. Before their first game, Captains Bill Brown, Chris Lewis, Charlie Pate, and James Dade were elected to lead the team.

After three losses to USN last year, the Big Red was ready for victory. They fell short of their goal in Chattanooga, however, and lost a game to McCallie and another close one to Lovett. Starting attack man Chris Lewis strained a muscle in his thigh during the McCallie game, taking him out of play.

The team was scheduled to play the Birmingham Youth teams a week before the McCallie and Lovett games, but they didn't come up to Nashville because of the "weather." Next, the Big Red went down to Birmingham and shut out both teams, beating the first team 17-0 and the other 9-0.

MBA rolled on to victory over cross-town "rival" USN. The 12-1 massacre came without the help of Chris Lefferts, who was out due to a fractured collar bone.

The following Saturday, we edged out the Memphis Youth Team 5-4 without the hard hits of Matthew Barnes. In the fourth quarter, Chris Lewis scored the winning goal.

Right now, we're on the way to a great season. We have been granted a chance for vengeance against McCallie



Co-levitation

because we play them for our last game. We just hope we can keep our attack men healthy.

We're On Track

By Christopher Schuller

Track is running a great season this year, due to speedy sprinters such as Michael Koban and David Harper, and strong field athletes like John Parker, Sam Macdonald, Matthew Cate, and Matt Bubis. The team finished 3rd in its first meet at Brentwood Academy, 2nd in the next meet at MBA, and 3rd overall at the HVAC's Robert Inman Relays at Harpeth Hall. With upcoming meets every Friday and the HVAC championships in early May, Microbe Track is looking toward a strong finish.

Rain, Rain, Go Away

By Cole Bourland

After basketball, a new season swung into action, baseball season. In his first year as the microbe head coach, Mr. Popovich was pumped and ready to begin what he hoped would be a great year. Team 2000 consists of Wylie Jones, Cole Bourland, Justin Games, Chandler Tygard, Tom Santi, Matt Smith, Brian Harris, Clark Lundy, PJ Fox, Preston Adams, Tee Paterson, Bransford Maxwell, Stephen Dahl, and our captains, Scott Pettus and Michael Fisher.

The first game was against the BGA Wildcats. After our heartbreaking loss in football, the team felt like it should return the favor. Scott Pettus pitched an incredible game, striking out the first nine batters and managed to humble four more batters. Chandler Tygard started the game with a triple to right, and scored soon after. Each starting player batted at least four times thanks to timely hits, from Matt Smith, Scott Pettus, and Michael Fisher, and BGA's many errors. The mercy rule ended the game with the final score of 15-1.

In the next game against McMurray, MBA scored four runs in the first inning. McMurray started a comeback, which was foiled when a player hit a sharp line drive was hit to the left field gap. He had a stand up double but decided to try for third. BIG MISTAKE! Shortstop Michael Fisher snagged the ball and launched a perfect throw just in time for the third baseman Cole Bourland to make the catch and tag the runner out. In the last inning, with a score of 7-3 in MBA's favor, Bransford Maxwell was pitching with bases loaded and no outs. The first two outs came with ease. Cheers rose as Mighty Maxwell
Continued on Page 15

Baseball Continued

struck out the next batter. This game was ugly in places but MBA pulled it off due to key hits and a myopic second base umpire, but as Coach Popovich said "A win is a win."

On Monday April 17, the Big Red beat BMS 11-1. Wylie Jones' deadly pitches befuzzled the BMS batters, and another triple by Chandler Tygard helped cinch the win. Check the schedule and come support the Big Red baseball team on our next home game.

7th Grade Lacrosse

By Ben Turk

So far the seventh grade lacrosse team has been playing, how do you say it, oh yes, pretty poorly. Before the first scrimmage between the red and white team, a lot of trash talk was in the can. Finally the red team defeated the white 2-1 on the Varsity football field. The next scrimmage was held on the practice field. It was wet and fun. In this game there were four memorable hits, two of which were laid by Davis Martin, and the others were distributed by Ben Turk. Scoring fever was all over the red team. A total of five goals were scored in this game. Jed Crumbo, Todd Bond, Ryan Burns, Chris Gioia, and Clay Caroland scored these goals. On the white team only one goal was scored by Jonathon Gotter at the buzzer of the game. The red team won 5-1.

Go lacrosse!

Microbe Tennis Schedule
Monday, April
24 and Tuesday,
April 25:
HVAC
Tournament

Come Support the Big Red



Microbe Baseball Schedule

Thursday, April 20 vs. Lipscomb @
Smitty City (Smith Field), 4:00

Monday, April 24 vs. Grassland @
Home, 4:00

Wednesday, April 26 @ Goodpasture,
4:00

Thursday, April 27 @ Woodland
Middle, 4:00

May 1 -5 HVAC Tournament

8th Lacrosse Schedule

Tuesday, April 25 vs. USN @
Home, 4:15

Saturday, May 6 vs. Farragut and
McCallie @ Farragut

Microbe Track Schedule

Thursday, April 20 vs. BGA, Ensworth, and
BA @ BA, 3:30

Friday, April 28 vs. BA, CPA, WH, and
BMS @ BMS, 3:30

Tuesday, May 2 HVAC Relays @
BGA, 4:00 (Prelems and Field Finals)

Friday, May 5 HVAC Relays @ BGA, 4:00

ENTERTAINMENT

The Pate and Tate Analysis of a Common Consumer Product

Subject: Mexican food, *cibus Mexicanus* or *comida mexicana*

Why is it that all religions have similar myths? Each civilization and religion has left behind legends of phenomena such as creation, a great flood, and love of Mexican food. People on each corner of the world throughout time have turned to Mexican food as the supreme meal.

This genre of food, which originated in Mexico, has spread all across

she made really good refried beans. Agamemnon loved refried beans, and would do anything to get Helen back. Julius Caesar conquered the known world because he was looking for the perfect burrito. Once he found it, he agreed to share it with Mark Antony. Brutus, of course, was jealous and killed Caesar and stole the burrito.

Two stone tablets were found on Mt. Sinai with this inscription (The following is to be read in a slow, deep voice):

Thou shalt eat meals at a Mexican restaurant, i.e. El Palenque.

Thou shalt consume free chips and salsa before ordering thy meal.

Thou shalt not covet the priveledges of 12 year olds, for they can order Kids Meals which are less expensive at El Palenque.

Thou shalt not touch thy plate when it is brought to thee for it is too hot.

Thou shalt honor thy beans and rice.

Thou shalt eat thy taco shell containing thy beef, not from a golden calf.

Thou shalt mix thy last remnants of thy meal into a Mexican goo.

Thou shalt tip thy waiter generously, for he is the Archangel of Mexican food.

Thou shalt venture to the front of thy Mexican restaurant and pay thy bill for thou shalt not steal thy Mexican food.

Thou shalt later relieve thyself of thy Mexican burden into thy porcelain basin.

A parchment was uncovered in Mecca, in what was thought to be a Mexican restaurant. The ancient Arabic is translated here:

The Five Pillars of Mexican Food:

1. One must believe that Mexican food is the supreme meal and Mexican restaurants (i.e. El Palenque) are prophets.



the world through a series of crusades and jihads. Mexican food lovers from India believe that one must continue to eat Mexican food until they are one with the Universal Taco. Israeli Mexiphiles remember when they were imprisoned in Egypt until a prophet led them to freedom and then started a chain of Mexican food restaurants. Egyptian Mexiphiles believe that owners of Mexican food restaurants are immortal and, thus, they are mummified after they die. Countless wars have been fought over misplaced tacos, enchiladas and fajitas. Paris abducted Helen because



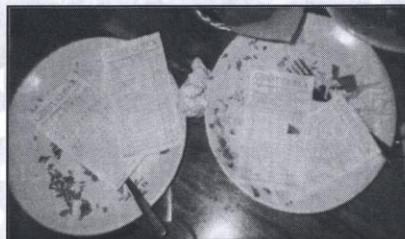
2. One must participate in five daily Mexican food meals.

3. One must give Mexican food to the poor.

4. One must fast during certain months eating nothing but Mexican food.

5. One must make a pilgrimage to Mexico at least once in one's life.

Mexican food has greatly impacted the entire world. Only recently has the essence of Mexican food been lost due to commercialization and certain talking-chihuahuas. This very essence can still be felt at El Palenque. It is up to you to dine there so that one day, the realm of Mexican foodism can thrive again. Mexiphiles of the world, unite!



The What?! Column

By Thomas Jefferson

When the founders of America sent King George III the Olive Branch Petition to outline their requests, they mistakenly sent him the *What?! Column*, one of Thomas Jefferson's lesser known writings. King George III wrote the founders a letter telling them that he would grant them independence, but, again by mistake, he sent them the "Pate and Tate Analysis of Crocheted Pot Holders" and an article about the 1774 seventh grade football team that went 1-9. Below is the original *What?! Column*.

Art thou thou art thy brethren of the cobbles? - Matthew Barnes

Mr Speigl: Name a type of tooth other than a molar.

Class: Canines! Incisors!

Edwin Conley: Dentures!

(While discussing Shakespearean puns)
...oh yeah, like in *Bevis and Butthead*... - Scott Hager

Kids make a nutritious snack! - Davis Martin

Is the *Playboy* channel on the radio? - Matthew Naftilan

Taylor Tate: Koban, gimme back my orange!

Michael Koban: What are you gonna do about it?

Taylor Tate: I'm gonna ... um ... get bigger.

DANGIFTSECTION

South America and Africa are lovey.

Can you make a diamond from a golf club? Can you make graphite paper?

Mrs. Ashworth: A nuclear reactor has many layers.

Dan: Like a Thermos!

Yoda is Miss Piggy.

How did monkeys get to Hawaii? Did they paddle little boats?

Yuk, yuk

What do you call a huge moose?

Enor-moose -Todd Bond

What is HO³?

Ho Ho Ho -Chris Woolsey

Why couldn't Jeff Glaser see the pirate movie?

Because it was rated "Arrrrgh."

-Jeffrey Glaser

What did the veteran say when he looked in the volcano?

Fire in the Hole -Cole Bourland

When you go in the bathroom, you're American. When you come out of the bathroom, you're American. What are while you're in the bathroom?

European -Davis Martin

A string bean and a squash were walking when he string bean fell and got hit by a car. The squash ran the string bean to the hospital. There, the doctor told the squash,

"Mr. String Bean is going to be okay, but he's going to be a vegetable for the rest of his life." -CP

How much does it cost for a pirate to have his ear pierced?

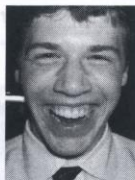
A buccaneer -Lee White

What is the smartest state?

Alabama, because it has 4 A's and one B. -Matthew Cate

What do you call a Jamaican proctologist?

A Poke-mon. -Tee Patterson



Why did the monkey fall out of the tree? Because he was dead. Why did the second monkey fall out of the tree? Because he was dead. Why did the third monkey fall out of the tree?

Because he thought it was game, eh? -CP

Why are elephants big, gray and wrinkled?

Because if they were small, white and smooth, they'd be an aspirin. -Dan Gift

What do you call a test tube that's been through college?

A graduated cylinder. -Matthew Cate

A man named Rudolph, who lived in the Soviet Union, could predict weather. There was a horrible drought in the Ukraine, and people from the Kremlin came and asked Rudolph when it would rain and if he were wrong, they would purge him. He told them that it would rain before November 12. They waited, and on November 11, it still hadn't rained. That night, Rudolph and his wife were eating dinner and at 11:59, it started pouring down rain. His wife asked him, "How did you know?"

He said, "Rudolph the Red knows rain, dear." -CP

What kind of bees make milk?

Boo-bees. -CP

How many MBA students does it take to change a lightbulb?

One. He holds the bulb and the world revolves around him. -Schuller

A panda walks into a restaurant and orders some food. After he is done, he shoots the waiter and then leaves. Another waiter runs out after him and says, "Why did you shoot that waiter?" The panda says, "Look up the word 'panda' in the dictionary." The waiter then looks up the word 'panda,' and it says:

"Panda- native of Asia; eats chutes and leaves." -Ben Pote

ENTERTAINMENT

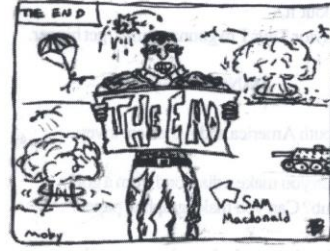
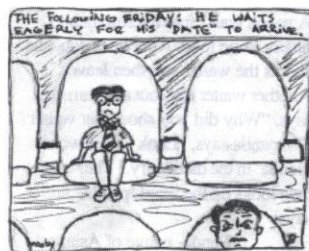
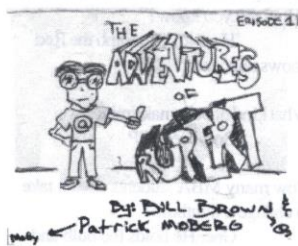


Look! It's Rupert!



The Adventures of Rupert

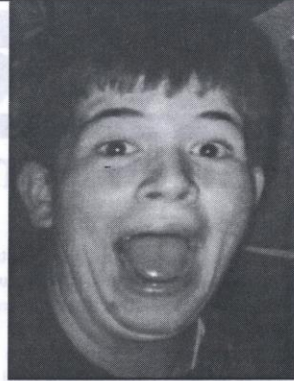
by Bill Brown and Patrick Moberg



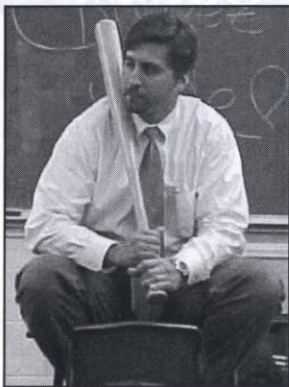


- A. Good morning, sunshine!
- B. And how was your weekend, Mrs. Snow?
- C. The Happy Hindu

Choose Your Own Caption



- A. Ben Hurk
- B. I love you, Dear!
- C. Got Hams?
- D. Yes! They've got karaoke!



- A. Being Brian Popovich
- B. "No, I don't give demerits, but..."
- C. "Touch the bat."
- D. "Don't call me Brian."



- A. Waazaap?
- B. We got it together, baby.
- C. Look at my side-barnes!
- D. Good evening, Mr. Bond.

- A. MuTATED Evil and Mini-P
- B. He is exactly like you in every way, except his head is 8 times your size.
- C. The Pate and Tate Analysis of a Time Warp Machine



- A. "Do you see what I see?"
- B. Tongue Tied
- C. "Look, Dylan! Levis!"



BACK PAGE

Fifteen Non-Funny Facts

By Ben Pote

15. "Errata" are errors or design defects that can sometimes occur in Intel Pentium Processors. These errors are not covered under warranty.

14. Some experts believe that repetitive motion, including typing for prolonged periods of time at a computer, may lead to injuries known as cumulative trauma disorders (CTD) or repetitive stress injuries (RSI).

13. Roman legend confidently reports that Hannibal Barca, when he was a boy of nine years old, stood before an altar with

There were no squirrels in New Hampshire until 1989

his father and swore eternal hatred to the Romans.

12. New York's absolute location is 41° N, 74° W.

11. Medial moraines form when two lateral moraines from two different glaciers join to form one big moraine in the middle of the glacier.

10. The inter-tropical convergence zone is the low pressure zone at the equator where the winds from two hemispheres converge.

9. The per capita GNP of Mozambique is \$80.

8. The Chess Club has a goal of 36 new members. So far, they have 30. What percent of the club's goal have they achieved? They have achieved 83% of their goal.

7. Paddies are irrigated or flooded land on which rice is grown.

6. If a number is added to its square, the sum is 56. The number is 7.

5. If you walk a mile, you have just walked 5280 feet.

4. Leslie Norris was born in Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorgan shire, Wales, in 1921.

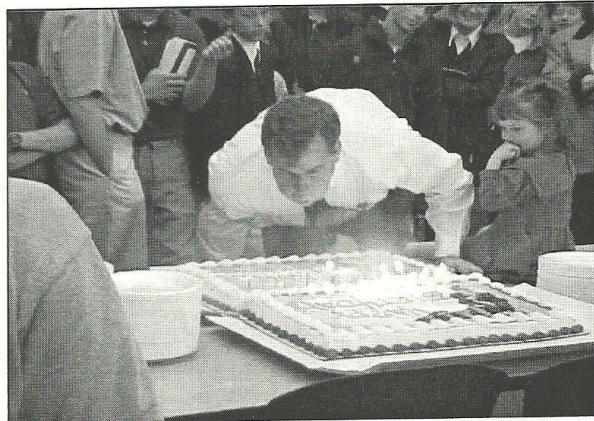
3. There were no squirrels in New

Hampshire until 1989.

2. All chairs in the Publications Room meet all flammability requirements of the California Bureau of Home Furnishings Bulletins 116 and 117.

1. There are 1,660,500 people in Hamburg, Germany.

Welcome Grandparents and Special Guests!



Ted's Top 10

By Ted Tywang

1. *Bohemian Rhapsody* - Queen
2. *Imagine* - John Lennon
3. *Hey Jude* - The Beatles
4. *Come Together* - The Beatles
5. *Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds* - The Beatles
6. *A Day in the Life* - The Beatles
7. *Let it Be* - The Beatles
8. *Yesterday* - The Beatles
9. *Eleanor Rigby* - The Beatles
10. *The Eye of the Tiger* - Toto

* This list was compiled by a completely unbiased, non-beatles fan. After an exhaustive study, this list of top ten best songs ever was found to be 100% correct.

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